



**DARK
HORSE
COMICS**

ORCHID

10

ORCHID



TOM MORELLO

SCOTT HEPBURN

DAN JACKSON

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Following the deaths of her mother and brother, Orchid has nothing left to lose. Hell bent on revenge, she forms an unlikely trio with a Shadow Rebel, Simon, and a mysterious warrior, Opal. When the battle to reclaim their lives and their world had just begun, Opal—revealed as the rebel martyr General China—was killed. Driven to despair by the death of her surrogate mother, Orchid tried on Opal's mask . . . and found she could call upon the great power it possessed. Hope, albeit minimal, was rekindled.

Now, the former prostitute turned rebel leader has rallied the oppressed Bridge People for a final assault on the vicious dictator Tomo Wolfe. The stakes are absolute: freedom or death.

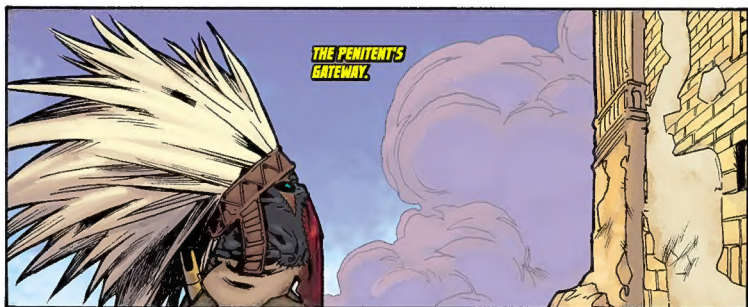
DESIGNER **DAVID NESTELLE** CONSULTING EDITOR **SIERRA HAHN** EDITOR **JIM GIBBONS** PUBLISHER **MIKE RICHARDSON**
SPECIAL THANKS TO **MICHELE FISHER AND DAVE LAND**

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THE PENITENT'S
GATEWAY.



THERE'S
NO WAY
IN.



EITHER WESTIN
DIDN'T MAKE IT.
OR HE DIDN'T
TRY.

BUT
THERE ARE
FOOTPRINTS
HERE. MAYBE
HE TURNED
BACK?



WAIT...
WHAT'S
THIS?







**FORTRESS
PENUEL.**



IT WON'T BE
LONG NOW,
GLETKIN. THE
BRIDGE PEOPLE
WILL SOON BE
ERADICATED,
ERASED FROM
HISTORY—

MY LORD!
THERE'S *CHAOS*
IN THE STREETS
OF FORTRESS
PENUEL!



DON BARRABAS
HAS GONE *MAD*.
MY LORD! HE HAS
MURDERED EVERY
TOP OFFICIAL IN
THE FORTRESS AND
HE'S RELEASED HIS
FOUL CREATURES
ON THE
CITIZENRY!

BARRABAS?!

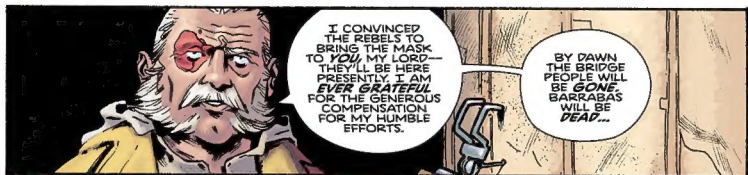
SHALL
WE RECALL
THE ARMY,
MY LORD?



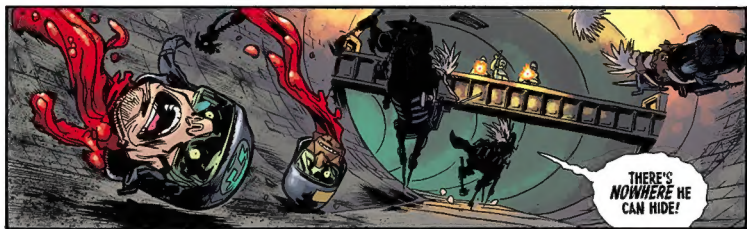
NO...
NO!!

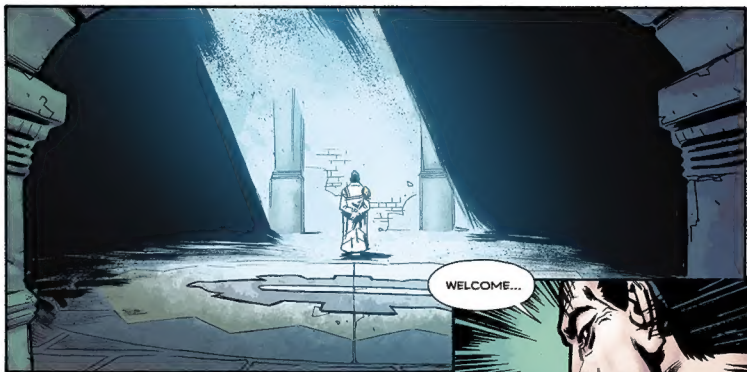
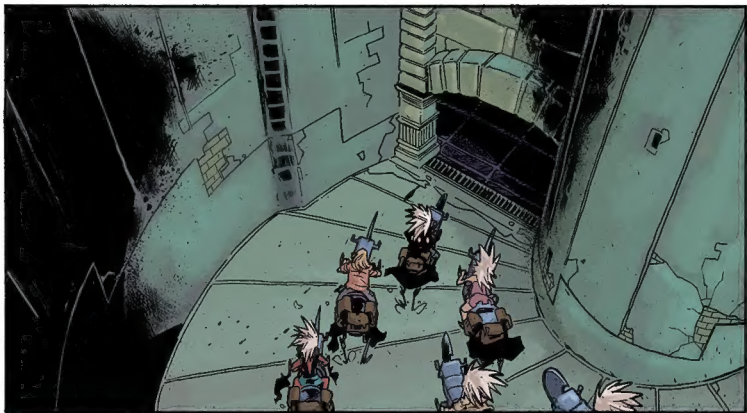
WE ARE ON
THE VERGE OF A
GREAT VICTORY!
GLETKIN! CALL UP
THE SLAVE GUARDS
FROM *ISCARIOT*!
THEY'LL RESTORE
ORDER...

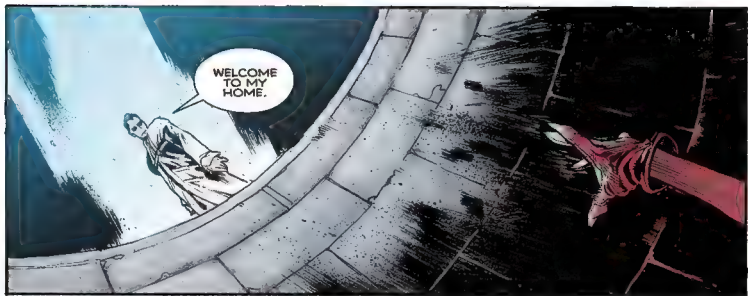
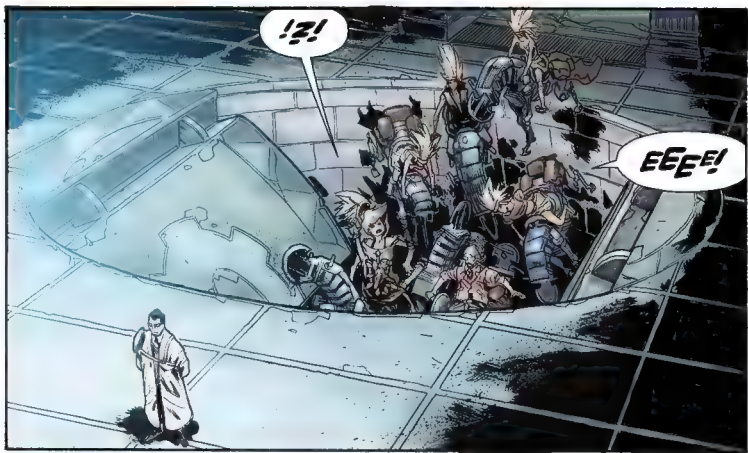
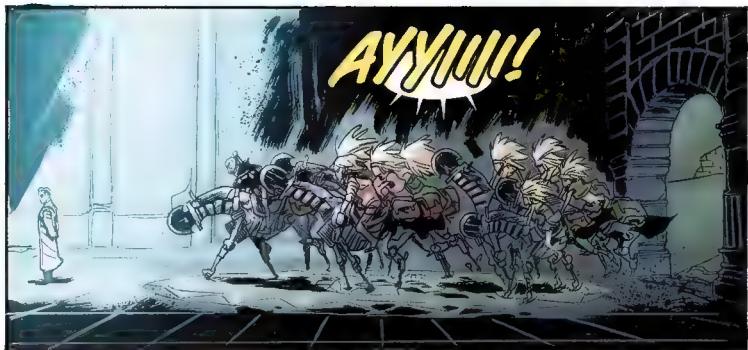
AND LISTEN
TO ME CLOSELY,
GLETKIN—I WANT
BARRABAS *KILLED*.
SEE TO IT *PERSONALLY*.
WHATEVER RESOURCES
YOU NEED ARE
YOURS.

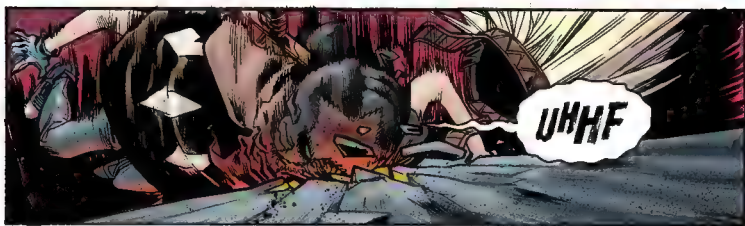
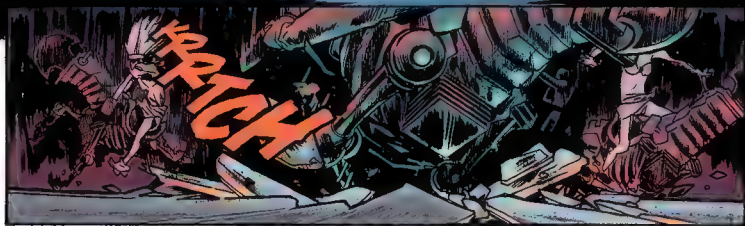


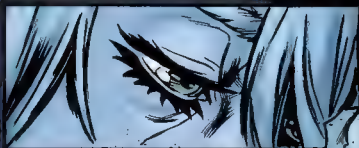






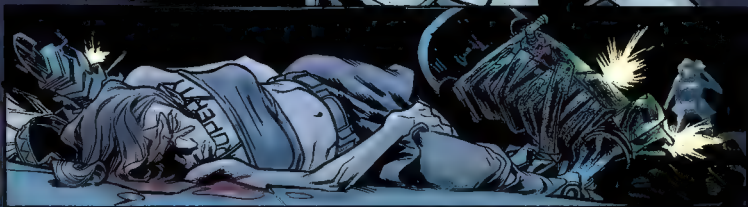






O-ORCHID?

A-ANYONE?



COME ON
NOW, *SUMPH*!
LET'S GET UP,
SHALL WE?
IT'S ONLY A
SCRATCH,
SEE?

Uh-hh...



GLRR-
KK-K

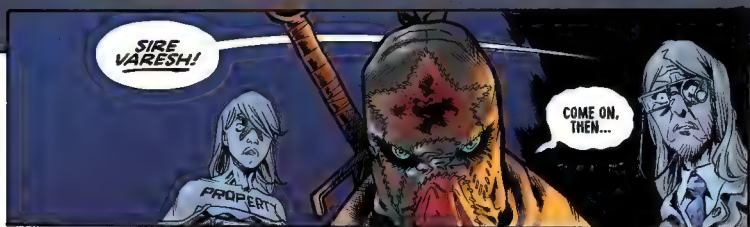
W-WHAT'S
THAT
NOISE?

I'M HERE
LAUKA. IT'S
GOING TO BE
ALL RIGHT...

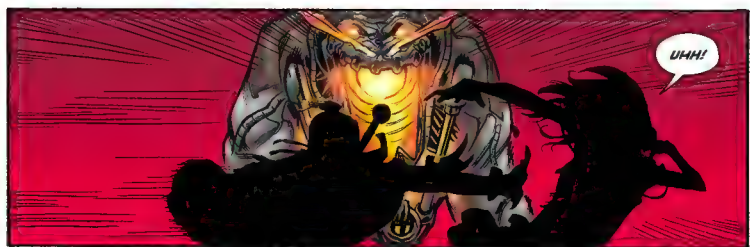
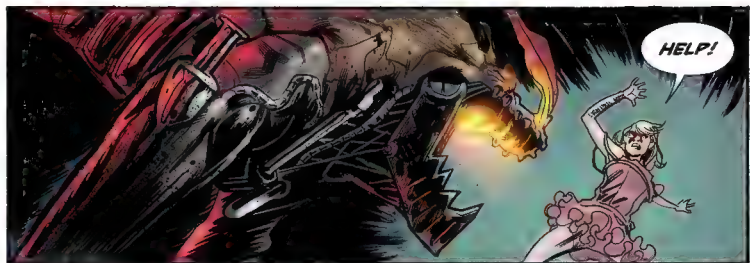
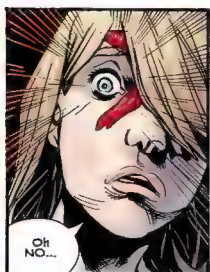
NO—
I DON'T
THINK IT
IS.

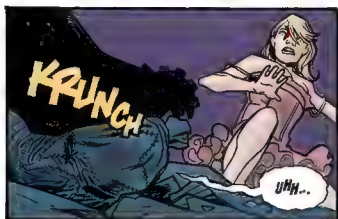
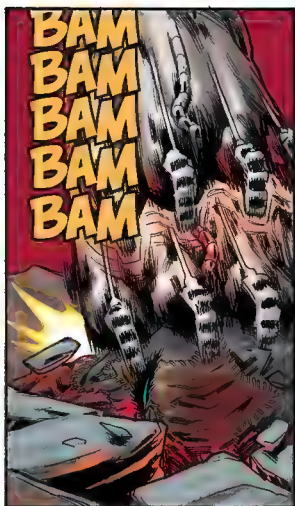




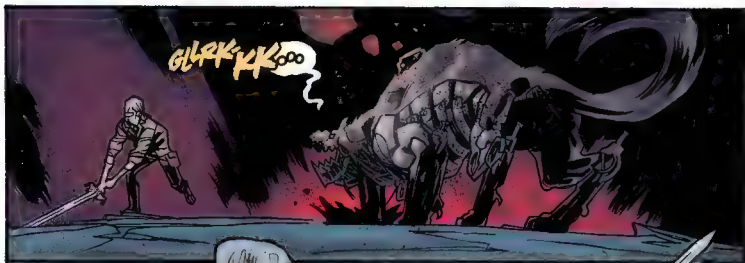


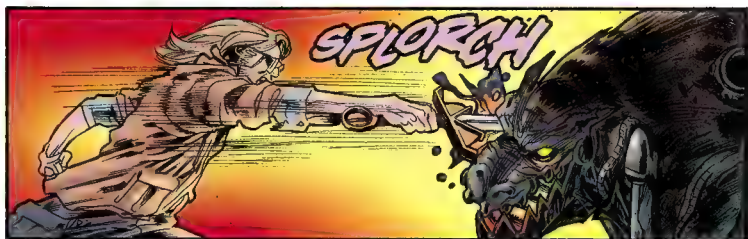


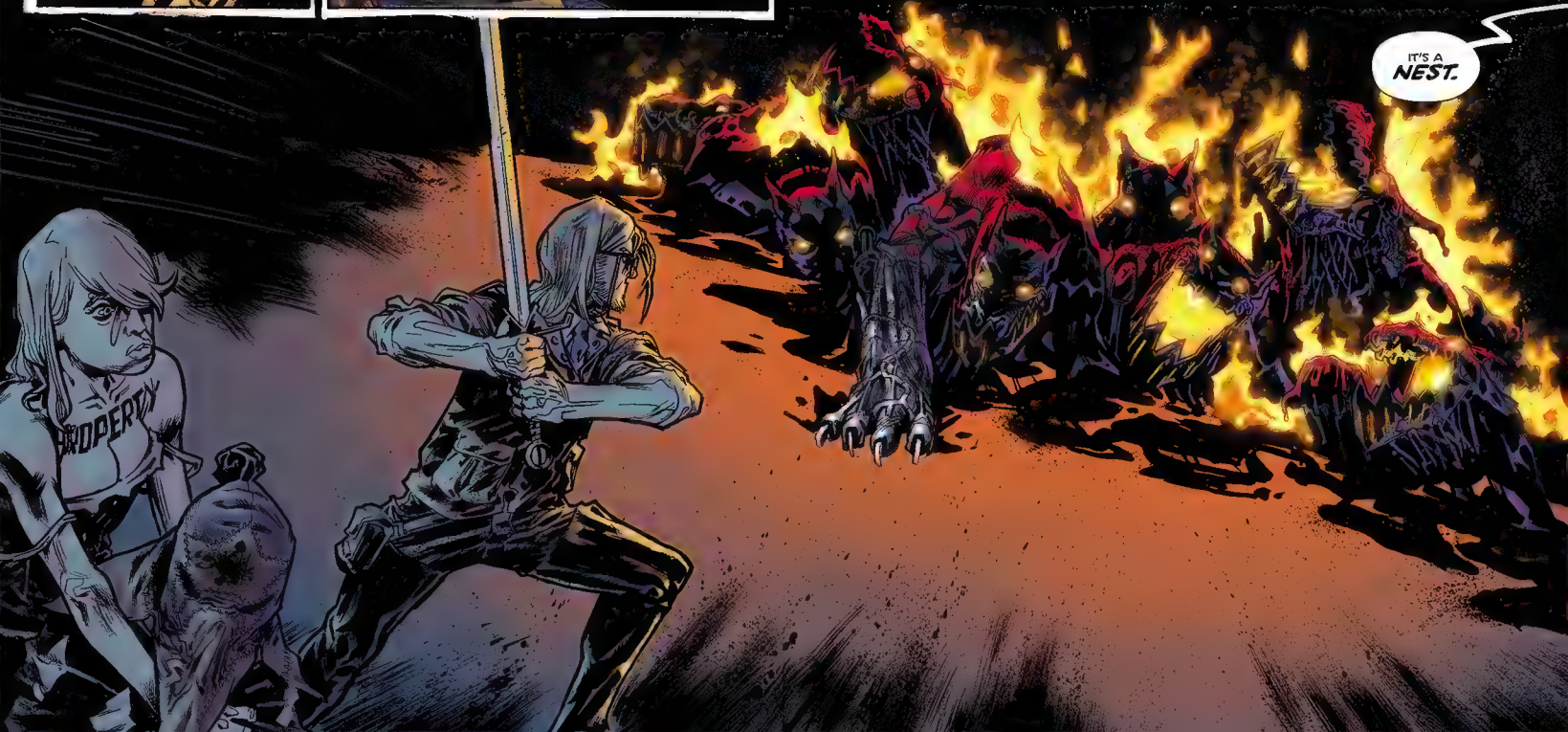


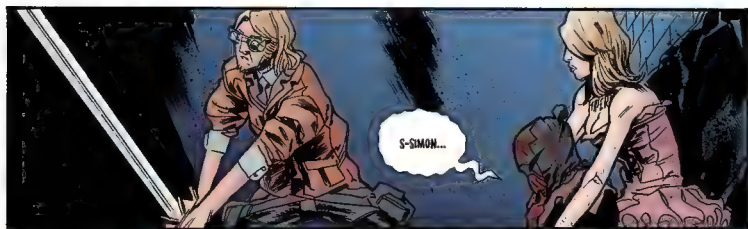
















**TO BE
CONTINUED...**

THE SHADOW REBEL READER

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To learn more about the world of *Orchid* and be entered to win exclusive prizes, text **ORCHID to 738674**. You don't have to buy a thing; we're just eager to explore innovative ways of bringing readers closer to the stories by providing unique content, news, and prizes.

The odds have been impossibly stacked against *Orchid* for, what, just about the entire ten-issue run of this comic? It's nice to see her finally receiving a little unexpected aid! And, man, that's one helluva final page, right? Morello and Hepburn have certainly put their heads together to provide us with quite a few evocative final images for these lush twenty-four-page issues . . . but we've only got one left! One cliffhanger, that is. That's right, righteous readers, issue #11 is out in a month, and then the series ends with issue #12 in December. And if you thought Tom and Scott pulled out all the stops with this issue, well, you're in for quite a ride as they finish out the *Orchid* saga.

*This story gets better and better with every turn of the page. I bought all eight issues last week and finished them today. All I have to say is I can't wait for *Orchid* #9. I'm still shocked by how *Orchid* found out she could control the power of the mask. Tom and *Orchid*'s staff are doing a remarkable job. Thank you!*

Jhosep
Kissimmee, Florida

Thank you, Jhosep! Hope you enjoyed issue #9 . . . and #10 too!

Those of you who pay attention to the credits page may notice that, with this issue, we have a staff change. Series editor Sierra Hahn, who's been as integral as an editor can be to this project, has passed the torch to the schlub that's been writing the letter column for the past few issues. If you've enjoyed this series, you owe a big thank-you to Ms. Hahn. Editors are, in many ways, cultivators of talent that work tirelessly to help their creators tell the best story they

possibly can. Sierra is one of the best in the business and I have no doubt each and every member of Team *Orchid* would agree with me on that. On behalf of all of us—thanks, Sierra!

Now let's hope the new guy doesn't screw it all up . . .

JIM
Jim Gibbons
Editor



The penultimate chapter! The epic conclusion begins here!
Orchid #11 on sale November 14, 2012



The final chapter! *Orchid* comes to a dramatic end in December!
Orchid #12 on sale December 12, 2012

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